NOTICE OF A DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS TO I-485 FROM I -77 TO U.S. 521 (JOHNSTON ROAD), SOUTH OF CHARLOTTE

TIP Project No. R-4902

Mecklenburg County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Pre-Hearing Open House and a Design Public Hearing on Thursday, September 15, 2011 in the Hixon Building – 2nd floor, located at 13850 Ballantyne Corporate Place, Charlotte.

NCDOT representatives will be available at the Pre-Hearing Open House between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and receive comments regarding the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions will also be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above hours.

A formal presentation will begin at 7 p.m. The presentation will consist of an explanation of the proposed location, design, the state-federal relationship, and right of way and relocation requirements and procedures. Citizens will have the opportunity to comment or ask questions. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a transcript will be prepared.

NCDOT proposes to improve I-485 by adding additional travel lanes within the existing median between U.S. 521 (Johnston Road) interchange and I-77 interchange, south of Charlotte. The project will include construction of a flyover structure at the U.S. 521 (Johnston Road) interchange to carry traffic from northbound U.S. 521 to westbound I-485. In addition, the project calls for the construction of an auxiliary lane from N.C. 51 to U.S. 521 (Johnston Road). The project is about 6.8 miles in length. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase system capacity and improve efficiency on I-485 for local and regional traffic.

A map displaying the location and design of the project and a copy of the Categorical Exclusion are available for public review at the NCDOT Resident Engineer's Office located at 12033-C East Independence Blvd., Matthews and at the Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization, 600 E. Fourth St., 8th Floor, Charlotte. The map may also be viewed at

http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/roadway/hearingmaps_by_county/

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Jamille Robbins, NCDOT-Human Environment Unit at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, by phone at (919) 707-6085 or via e-mail at jarobbins@ncdot.gov. Additional material may be submitted until October 13, 2011.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Robbins as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.